

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Skagway****Project Title:**

Skagway - Seawalk Intermodal Cruise Ship Access Project

State Funding Requested: \$ 2,000,000**House District: 5 - C**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

CRUISE SHIP IMPACT FUND SOURCE PROJECT - Widening of sidewalks, construction of benches, and beautification projects.

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$2,000,000**Funding Secured

Amount FY

Other Pending Requests

Amount FY

Anticipated Future Need

Amount FY

There is no other funding needed

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

THIS IS A CRUISE SHIP IMPACT FUND SOURCE PROJECT.

The Municipality of Skagway sees among the most cruise ship traffic in Southeast Alaska. Skagway sees 4 to 5 cruise ships nearly each day of the week during the cruise ship season. For this small town, which has a winter population of approximately 850, this amounts to a huge amount of resources dedicated purely to cruise ship passenger traffic. Entire sections of town do not operate during the winter months, yet continue to exist only for the cruise ship industry. Skagway enjoys a positive economic result from the cruise ship industry and devotes a lot of time and resources to ensure the safety as well as enjoyment of the cruise ship passengers.

The Municipality of Skagway has been working for a number of years on a multi-phased construction project to improve visitors' access and safety to the designated historic district located in the heart of downtown Skagway from the cruise ship berthing. The project phase III and IV entails interpretive displays, bus shelters, utility stubouts for future restroom, benches, waste receptacles, widening of sidewalks, new lighting, burying power and communications, rock retaining wall, pergolas, and landscaping. The Seawalk Project creates a safe, secure, multimodal use corridor to connect the Skagway's waterfront with its historic district. The unique aspect of entry to Skagway is that the majority of visitors see the town from a cruise ship as they enter the harbor. The setting is very small as they are hemmed in by the cruise ship, the mountains, and the town setting. The visitors don't drive in as they do in other national parks, the majority walk to downtown along the Seawalk.

The Seawalk will be well lit and designed to accommodate transit vehicles and pedestrians. Transit facilities and pedestrian

walkways are designed to take into account the safety and security expectations of all passengers, including persons with disabilities.

The scope of the project includes the widening of sidewalks to accommodate persons with disabilities, landscaping material, rest areas with benches, trash receptacles, interpretive display areas, pergolas for shelter as visitors are waiting to use the restroom, informational signs, a rock retaining wall, utility stub outs for a future restroom building, new lighting and burying power and communication lines. The new 14-foot wide sidewalks will increase pedestrian capacity, allowing for comfortable two way traffic flow keeping pedestrians a safe distance from vehicle traffic.

Project Timeline:

Funding will be secured in July of 2008, RFP's will go out in the fall with construction to begin in the spring of 2009.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

City of Skagway

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: Allen Sorum, City Manager

Phone Number: 907-983-2297

Address: P.O. Box 415, Skagway, AK 99840

Email: a.sorum@skagway.org

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No



MUNICIPALITY OF SKAGWAY

GATEWAY TO THE GOLD RUSH OF "98"

POST OFFICE BOX 415

SKAGWAY, ALASKA 99840

(907) 983-2297 (PHONE)

(907) 983-2151 (FAX)

MEMORANDUM

Date: 28 November 2007
To: Skagway Municipal Assembly
Senator Albert Kookesh
Representative Bill Thomas
From: Alan Sorum - Manager
Subject: Capital Improvement Project Requests

The Skagway Municipal Assembly met in regular session on 27 November 2007 to consider capital improvement project requests for 2008. Skagway projects were prioritized by funding source and reflect efforts to improve public safety, protect existing infrastructure and provide better service to visiting cruise ship passengers.

Resolution 07-24R - \$2 million for the Dahl Memorial Clinic Relocation and Expansion.

This is the community priority project for funding from the Commercial Passenger Vessel Excise Tax Impact Fund. The Impact Fund consists of excise tax collected that is not directed to one of the first five ports of call or the Ocean Ranger Program. Construction of a new clinic in Skagway will provide a much needed healthcare facility that will provide service to passengers, crew, seasonal workers, and regional residents alike. Skagway has committed \$4 million in local funds and has a grant of \$1 million from the State of Alaska to completing the project. Funding has been requested from the Denali Commission and Rasmuson Foundation, but not assured. Federal funds directed towards the Commission may be limited. The clinic building will be ready to bid in spring of 2008.

Resolution 07-25R - \$650,000 for a Booster Station and Well. This is the community priority project for funding from the State Capital Program budget. Due to inadequate water pressures at the higher elevations of the community's water system, Skagway is looking at constructing a new well and water booster pump station located at about 17th Avenue to address the pressure and flow concerns of the water system at the higher elevations. A booster station and well would create more stable pressure and provide water for firefighting purposes. This project will cost an estimated \$1 million and the Municipality has a \$250,000 earmark from EPA to put towards completion of this project. The Booster Station and Well was vetoed by Governor Palin in 2007, but remains a priority for the community due to safety and health concerns.

Resolution 07-26R - \$14 million for Small Boat Harbor Renovation and Partial Penetrating Wave Barrier. These are the projects proposed by the community for participation in the State of Alaska Harbor Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program. This project has several components in its first phase; construction of a partial penetrating wave barrier, replacement, and extension of floating docks, and maintenance dredging. This facility was transferred from the State to the Municipality with a great deal of accompanying deferred maintenance. The Municipality of Skagway is willing to partner with the State of Alaska to deal with the deferred maintenance issues left lingering after transfer of the facility to the community. Resolution 07-26R nominates our harbor for funding under the matching grant program and urges the Legislature to provide substantial funds to the grant program. Skagway has a \$500,000 grant from the Denali Commission to help fund the wave barrier project. Construction, permit and bid documents will be ready for the 2008 construction season.

Resolution 07-27R- \$2 million for Phase III and IV of Seawalk Intermodal Access Project.

These projects are the community's priority for funding from the Federal Transit Administration and would also be good candidates for funding from the Passenger Excise Tax Impact Fund.

Phase I and II were funded by the Federal Transit Administration, engineering for the remaining phases is complete and they are ready for bid.

Phase IV - The scope includes widening the sidewalk by 6 feet from the harbormaster's office to Pullen creek. Further additions include 4 benches and 2 waste receptacles, a rock retaining wall, utility stubouts for a potential future restroom building, new lighting, and burying power and communications.

Phase III - This phase involves adding landscaping material, interpretive display areas, tour sales shelter, restroom area pergola, straight pergolas, curved pergolas, bus area shelter, and miscellaneous construction features including more benches and waste receptacles.

One page narratives for each priority project and summary list of other project under consideration by the Municipality of Skagway are attached to this memo. These additional projects have been ranked in importance by the Borough Assembly and are shown in that order. If you have any questions, please contact me at 907-983-2297.

Phase III and IV of Seawalk Intermodal Access Project

Project Description: The Municipality of Skagway has been working a number of years on a multi-phased construction project to improve pedestrian access to the downtown core business district along Congress Way from the White Pass Railroad Dock. The project entails improved visitor facilities at the head of the Railroad Dock, a new seawall and seawalk along the edge of the small boat harbor to separate pedestrians from vehicle traffic on Congress Way, re-routing some of these pedestrians through Pullen Creek Park onto 2nd Avenue or Broadway, landscaping and interpretive displays. Phases 1 and 2 are completed. Depending on available funding, the Municipality intends to proceed with Phase IV first

Phase IV - The scope includes widening the sidewalk by 6 feet from the harbormaster's office to Pullen creek. Further additions include 4 benches and 2 waste receptacles, a rock retaining wall, utility stubouts for a potential future restroom building, new lighting, and burying power and communications.

Phase III - This phase involves adding landscaping material, interpretive display areas, tour sales shelter, restroom area pergola, straight pergolas, curved pergolas, bus area shelter, and miscellaneous construction features including more benches and waste receptacles.

Project Contact:

Alan Sorum – City Manager
City of Skagway
Post Office Box 415
Skagway, Alaska 99840

Cost Estimates: Project estimates for both phases total \$2 million.

Estimated Phase IV Cost (including construction administration): \$992,300
Estimated Phase III Cost (including construction administration): \$982,700

Project Status Information: Engineering, bid and permit documents are in place for remaining work to be completed.

Potential Funding Sources: Municipality of Skagway, State of Alaska, Federal Transit Administration

MUNICIPALITY OF SKAGWAY, ALASKA
RESOLUTION NO. 07-27R

A RESOLUTION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SKAGWAY, ALASKA DESIGNATING THE SEAWALK INTERMODAL ACCESS PROJECT PHASE III AND IV AS THE COMMUNITY'S PRIORITY FOR FUNDING FROM THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION.

WHEREAS, Phase I and II were funded by the Federal Transit Administration, and engineering is complete for Phase III and IV and they are ready for bid; and

WHEREAS, Phase III involves adding landscaping material, interpretive display areas, tour sales shelter, restroom area pergola, straight pergolas, curved pergolas, bus area shelter, and miscellaneous construction features including more benches and waste receptacles; and

WHEREAS, Phase IV includes widening the sidewalk by 6 feet from the harbormaster's office to Pullen Creek; 4 additional benches and 2 waste receptacles, a rock retaining wall, utility stubouts for a potential future restroom building, new lighting, and burying power and communication lines;


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Municipality of Skagway Borough Assembly has designated the Seawalk Intermodal Access Project Phase III and IV as the Community's priority for funding from the Federal Transit Administration in the amount of \$2 million; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipality of Skagway Borough Assembly also designates the Seawalk Intermodal Access Project Phase III and IV as good candidates for funding from the Passenger Excise Tax Impact Fund.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 27th day of November, 2007 by the Borough Assembly of the Municipality of Skagway, Alaska.


Thomas D. Cochran, Mayor

ATTEST:


Marjorie D. Harris, Borough Clerk

(SEAL)

Proposed by: Administration

Vote: 4 Aye 0 Nay 2 Absent

Kaci Schroeder

From: Alan Sorum [a.sorum@skagway.org]
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2008 11:49 AM
To: Kaci Schroeder
Cc: J.M. Walsh Company, Inc.
Subject: Narrative for Seawalk Project

Kaci,

Here is a description of Phases III and IV of the project. Feel free to edit at will. Thanks for the support.
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Skagway Seawalk Intermodal Access Project. The Municipality of Skagway has been working for a number of years on a multi-phased construction project to improve visitors' access and safety to the designated historic district located in the heart of downtown Skagway from the cruise ship berthing. The project phase III and IV entails interpretive displays, bus shelters, utility stubouts for future restroom, benches, waste receptacles, widening of sidewalks, new lighting, burying power and communications, rock retaining wall, pergolas, and landscaping. The Seawalk Project creates a safe, secure, multimodal use corridor to connect the Skagway's waterfront with its historic district. The unique aspect of entry to Skagway is that the majority of visitors see the town and the KLGO from a cruise ship as they enter the harbor. The setting is very small as they are hemmed in by the cruise ship, the mountains, and the town setting. The visitors don't drive in as they do in other national parks, the majority walk to the KLGO and downtown along the Seawalk.

The Seawalk (formal name is Congress Way) will be well lighted and designed to accommodate transit vehicles and pedestrians. Transit facilities and pedestrian walkways are designed to take into account the safety and security expectations of all passengers, including persons with disabilities. Phases I and II are complete providing parking areas for buses, taxis, and vehicles, access to the harbor, a restroom, artistic walkway connecting the waterfront and downtown, and lighting.

Phases III and IV will continue the multi-phased construction project to improve pedestrian access to KLGO District along Congress Way from the White Pass Railroad Dock. The scope of the project includes the widening of sidewalks to accommodate persons with disabilities, landscaping material, rest areas with benches, trash receptacles, interpretive display areas, pergolas for shelter as visitors are waiting to use the restroom, board shuttles, or rest, informational signs, a rock retaining wall, utility stub outs for a future restroom building, new lighting and burying power and communication lines. The new 14-foot wide sidewalks will increase pedestrian capacity, allowing for comfortable two way traffic flow keeping pedestrians a safe distance from the vehicle traffic on Congress Way.

This project will seamlessly connect the harbor/dock area with Pullen Pond, the historic district of Skagway and the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park.